

Serial No.: 10/698,088
Art Unit: 2853**REMARKS****BEST AVAILABLE COPY**

This is a full and timely response to the outstanding final Office Action mailed April 24, 2006. Reconsideration and allowance of the application and presently pending claims 26-32 are respectfully requested.

1. **Allowable Subject Matter**

Applicants appreciate the Examiner's indication that claims 26-32 are allowed. In that it is believed that every rejection has been overcome, it is respectfully submitted that each of the claims that remains in the case is presently in condition for allowance.

2. **Response To Rejections of Claims Under 35 U.S.C. § 102**

Claim 14 has been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by *Drogo* (U.S. Patent No. 5,528,269).

Claim 14 is canceled without prejudice, waiver, or disclaimer, and therefore, the rejection to this claim is rendered moot. Applicants take this action merely to reduce the number of disputed issues and to facilitate early allowance and issuance of other claims in the present application. Applicants reserve the right to pursue the subject matter of these canceled claims in a continuing application, if Applicants so choose, and do not intend to dedicate any of the canceled subject matter to the public.

3. **Response To Rejections of Claims Under 35 U.S.C. § 103**

In the Office Action, claim 15 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over *Drogo* in view of *Buskirk* (U.S. Patent No. 4,872,027).

Claim 15 is canceled without prejudice, waiver, or disclaimer, and therefore, the rejection to this claim is rendered moot. Applicants take this action merely to reduce the number of disputed issues and to facilitate early allowance and issuance of other claims in the present application. Applicants reserve the right to pursue the subject matter of these canceled claims in a continuing application, if Applicants so choose, and do not intend to dedicate any of the canceled subject matter to the public.

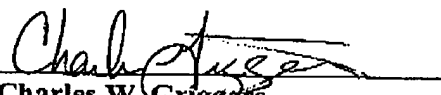
Serial No.: 10/698,088

Art Unit: 2853

CONCLUSION

For at least the reasons set forth above, Applicants respectfully submit that all objections and/or rejections have been traversed, rendered moot, and/or accommodated, and that the pending claims are in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and allowance of the present application and all pending claims are hereby courteously requested. If, in the opinion of the Examiner, a telephonic conference would expedite the examination of this matter, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned agent at (770) 933-9500.

Respectfully submitted,


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